

which provide for such institutions to grant undergraduate credit for work performed in such position.

“(6) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.—

“(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Where deemed appropriate, the head of each executive agency may establish a scholarship program for the purpose of qualifying individuals for acquisition positions in the agency.

“(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in a scholarship program established under this paragraph by an executive agency, an individual must—

“(i) be accepted for enrollment or be currently enrolled as a full-time student at an accredited educational institution authorized to grant baccalaureate or graduate degrees (as appropriate);

“(ii) be pursuing a course of education that leads toward completion of a bachelor's, master's, or doctor's degree (as appropriate) in a qualifying field of study, as determined by the head of the agency;

“(iii) sign an agreement described in subparagraph (C) under which the participant agrees to serve a period of obligated service in the agency in an acquisition position in return for payment of educational assistance as provided in the agreement; and

“(iv) meet such other requirements as the head of the agency prescribes.

“(C) AGREEMENT.—An agreement between the head of an executive agency and a participant in a scholarship program established under this paragraph shall be in writing, shall be signed by the participant, and shall include the following provisions:

“(i) The agreement of the head of the agency to provide the participant with educational assistance for a specified number of school years, not to exceed 4, during which the participant is pursuing a course of education in a qualifying field of study. The assistance may include payment of tuition, fees, books, laboratory expenses, and a stipend.

“(ii) The participant's agreement—

“(I) to accept such educational assistance,

“(II) to maintain enrollment and attendance in the course of education until completed,

“(III) while enrolled in such course, to maintain an acceptable level of academic standing (as prescribed by the head of the agency), and

“(IV) after completion of the course of education, to serve as a full-time employee in an acquisition position in the agency for a period of time of one calendar year for each school year or part thereof for which the participant was provided a scholarship under the program.

“(D) REPAYMENT.—(i) Any person participating in a program established under this paragraph shall agree to pay to the United States the total amount of educational assistance provided to the person under the program if the person is voluntarily separated from the agency or involuntarily separated for cause from the agency before the end of the period for which the person has agreed to continue in the service of the agency in an acquisition position.

“(ii) If an employee fails to fulfill the agreement to pay to the Government the total amount of educational assistance provided to the person under the program, a sum equal to the amount of the educational assistance may be recovered by the Government from the employee (or the estate of the employee) by setoff against accrued pay, compensation, amount of retirement credit, or other amount due the employee from the Government; and by such other method as is provided by law for the recovery of amounts owing to the Government.

“(iii) The head of an executive agency may waive in whole or in part a repayment required under this paragraph if the head of the agency determines the recovery would be against equity and good conscience or would be contrary to the best interests of the United States.

“(E) TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT.—There shall be no requirement that a position be offered to a person after such person successfully

completes a course of education required by an agreement under this paragraph. If no position is offered, the agreement shall be considered terminated.”

(2) The table of contents for such Act, contained in section 1(b), is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 38. Acquisition workforce.”

(b) ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS.—Section 6(d)(5) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 405), is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking out “Government-wide career management programs for a professional procurement work force” and inserting in lieu thereof “the development of a professional acquisition workforce Government-wide”;

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking out “procurement by the” and inserting in lieu thereof “acquisition by the”; and

(B) by striking out “and” at the end of the subparagraph; and

(3) by striking out subparagraph (C) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

“(C) administer the provisions of section 38;

“(D) collect data and analyze acquisition workforce data from the Office of Personnel Management, the heads of executive agencies, and, through periodic surveys, from individual employees;

“(E) periodically analyze acquisition career fields to identify critical competencies, duties, tasks, and related academic prerequisites, skills, and knowledge;

“(F) coordinate and assist agencies in identifying and recruiting highly qualified candidates for acquisition fields;

“(G) develop instructional materials for acquisition personnel in coordination with private and public acquisition colleges and training facilities;

“(H) evaluate the effectiveness of training and career development programs for acquisition personnel;

“(I) promote the establishment and utilization of academic programs by colleges and universities in acquisition fields;

“(J) facilitate, to the extent requested by agencies, interagency intern and training programs; and

“(K) perform other career management or research functions as directed by the Administrator.”

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) having assumed the chair, Mr. WELLER, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1670) to revise and streamline the acquisition laws of the Federal Government, to reorganize the mechanisms for resolving Federal procurement disputes, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2126, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2126) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment

thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida? The Chair hears none, and without and objection appoints the following conferees: Messrs. YOUNG of Florida, McDADE, LIVINGSTON, LEWIS of California, SKEEN, HOBSON, BONILLA, NETHERCUTT, NEUMANN, MURTHA, DICKS, WILSON, HEFNER, SABO, and OBEY.

There was no objection.

MOTION TO CLOSE PORTIONS OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON H.R. 2126, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. YOUNG of Florida moves, pursuant to rule xxviii (28), clause 6(a) of the House rules, that the conference meetings between the House and the Senate on the bill, H.R. 2126, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes, be closed to the public at such times as classified national security information is under consideration; provided, however, that any sitting Member of Congress shall have a right to attend any closed or open meeting.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida [Mr. YOUNG].

Under the rule on this motion, the vote must be taken by the yeas and nays.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 414, nays 2, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 661]

YEAS—414

Abercrombie	Boucher	Collins (MI)
Allard	Brewster	Combest
Andrews	Browder	Condit
Archer	Brown (CA)	Conyers
Armey	Brown (FL)	Cooley
Bachus	Brown (OH)	Costello
Baesler	Brownback	Coyne
Baker (CA)	Bryant (TN)	Cramer
Baker (LA)	Bryant (TX)	Crane
Baldacci	Bunn	Crapo
Ballenger	Bunning	Creameans
Barcia	Burr	Cubin
Barr	Burton	Cunningham
Barrett (NE)	Buyer	Danner
Barrett (WI)	Callahan	Davis
Bartlett	Calvert	Deal
Barton	Camp	DeLauro
Bass	Canady	DeLay
Bateman	Cardin	Dellums
Becerra	Castle	Deutscher
Beilenson	Chabot	Diaz-Balart
Bentsen	Chambliss	Dickey
Bereuter	Chapman	Dicks
Bevill	Chenoweth	Dingell
Bilbray	Christensen	Dixon
Bilirakis	Chrysler	Doggett
Bishop	Clay	Dooley
Bliley	Clayton	Doolittle
Blute	Clement	Dornan
Boehlert	Clinger	Doyle
Boehner	Clyburn	Dreier
Bonilla	Coble	Duncan
Bonior	Coburn	Dunn
Bono	Coleman	Durbin
Borski	Collins (IL)	Edwards